

March 14, 2013

To the members of the Public Safety and Security Committee:

I strongly support Governor Malloy's Common Sense Gun Safety Reforms. My thinking is this: that all rights come with reasonable restrictions. For example, it is not acceptable to yell "fire" in a crowded movie house, and it's not legal to drive a car without a license and insurance. Reasonable people understand these kinds of rules and don't contest them. And yet we have a class of items whose sole purpose is to kill people—let me say that again—these items are specifically intended to kill people (not deer, people)--, and yet we have practically no effective guidelines on their sale and possession. For some reason, guns have been given special status in our society as if they're immune to the rules. It is not rational and it is not responsible.

The pro-gun organizers in this country have driven gun policy for too long. I can't understand their motivations, and can only attribute them to financial profit, fear, and what to me is a misguided outlook that allows an extreme and selfish idea of "personal freedom" to trump the safety, and even the lives, of victims.

Enough. The silent majority out here is getting less patient and less silent. We are tired of the cowboy mentality and seeing the violence that permitting it until now, has allowed. It's time to be responsible and to balance two types of freedoms: the freedom for some to have guns, with the freedom for **all** to be safe.

I strongly support Governor Malloy's Common Sense Gun Safety Reforms. Thank you for your attention to this.

Sincerely,

Connie Heye

West Hartford, CT